

116TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# S. 3171

To amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to reauthorize the National Estuary Program, and for other purposes.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 9, 2020

Mr. WHITEHOUSE (for himself, Mr. CASSIDY, and Mr. CARPER) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works

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## A BILL

To amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to reauthorize the National Estuary Program, and for other purposes.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-  
2 tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

**3 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4       This Act may be cited as the “Protect and Restore  
5 America’s Estuaries Act”.

**6 SEC. 2. NATIONAL ESTUARY PROGRAM.**

7       Section 320 of the Federal Water Pollution Control  
8 Act (33 U.S.C. 1330) is amended—

1                             (1) in subsection (a)(2)(B), by striking “and  
2 Peconic Bay, New York” and inserting “Peconic  
3 Bay, New York; Casco Bay, Maine; Tampa Bay,  
4 Florida; Coastal Bend, Texas; San Juan Bay, Puer-  
5 to Rico; Tillamook Bay, Oregon; Piscataqua Region,  
6 New Hampshire; Barnegat Bay, New Jersey; Mary-  
7 land Coastal Bays, Maryland; Charlotte Harbor,  
8 Florida; Mobile Bay, Alabama; Morro Bay, Cali-  
9 fornia; and Lower Columbia River, Oregon and  
10 Washington”;

11                             (2) in subsection (b)(4)—

12                                 (A) by striking “management plan that  
13 recommends” and inserting “management plan  
14 that—

15                                 “(A) recommends”; and

16                                 (B) by adding at the end the following:

17                                 “(B) addresses the effects of recurring ex-  
18 treme weather events on the estuary, including  
19 the identification and assessment of  
20 vulnerabilities in the estuary and the develop-  
21 ment and implementation of adaptation strate-  
22 gies; and

23                                 “(C) increases public education and aware-  
24 ness of the ecological health and water quality  
25 conditions of the estuary;”;

1                             (3) in subsection (c)(5), by inserting “nonprofit  
2                             organizations,” after “educational institutions,”;

3                             (4) in subsection (g)(4)—

4                                 (A) in subparagraph (A), by striking “sub-  
5                             section (i)(2)(B)” and inserting “subsection  
6                             (i)(3)(B); and

7                                 (B) in subparagraph (C)—

8                                     (i) in the matter preceding clause (i),  
9                                     in the first sentence—

10                                     (I) by inserting “, emerging,”  
11                                     after “urgent”;

12                                     (II) by striking “coastal areas”  
13                                     and inserting “estuaries of national  
14                                     significance”;

15                                     (ii) in clause (vi), by inserting “, ex-  
16                                     treme weather,” after “sea level rise”;

17                                     (iii) by redesignating clauses (vi) and  
18                                     (vii) as clauses (ix) and (x), respectively;

19                                     and

20                                     (iv) by inserting after clause (v) the  
21                                     following:

22                                     “(vi) stormwater runoff;

23                                     “(vii) accelerated land loss;

24                                     “(viii) problems resulting from urban-  
25                                     ization and population growth, including—

1                         “(I) increased demand for sewage  
2                         treatment;  
3                         “(II) loss of forests and natural  
4                         soil; and  
5                         “(III) increased amounts of im-  
6                         pervious surfaces that affect water  
7                         quality;”; and  
8                         (5) in subsection (i)—  
9                             (A) by redesignating paragraph (2) as  
10                         paragraph (3); and  
11                             (B) in paragraph (1), in the matter pre-  
12                         ceding subparagraph (A), by striking “There is  
13                         authorized to be appropriated to the Adminis-  
14                         trator \$26,500,000 for each of fiscal years  
15                         2017 through 2021 for—” and inserting the  
16                         following: “There are authorized to be appro-  
17                         priated to the Administrator for the purposes  
18                         described in paragraph (2)—  
19                             “(A) \$26,500,000 for each of fiscal years  
20                         2017 through 2021; and  
21                             “(B) \$50,000,000 for each of fiscal years  
22                         2022 through 2026.  
23                         “(2) PURPOSES DESCRIBED.—The purposes re-  
24                         ferred to in paragraph (1) are—”.

